



ANTI-TRACTARIAN TRACTS ;

OR,

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND OPPOSED TO TRACTARIANISM, BOTH IN DOCTRINES
AND CEREMONIES.

SECOND SERIES. No. 10.

POPERY DANGEROUS

TO

THE BRITISH CONSTITUTION,

BOTH IN CHURCH AND STATE;

*As apparent from FACTS recorded in various Acts of Parliament passed
after the Reformation, Gunpowder-Plot, the Restoration,
and the Revolution of 1688.*

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AFTER THE REFORMATION.

1584—27th Elizabeth, ch. ii.—AN ACT of Parliament passed, entitled
“An Act against JESUITS, SEMINARY-PRIESTS, and other such like dis-
obedient persons,” containing the following recital :

‘WHEREAS divers persons, called or professed JESUITS, *Seminary-priests*, and *other Priests*, which have been, and, from time to time are made in the parts beyond the seas, by or according to the Order and Rites of the Romish Church, *have, of late, come and been sent, and DAILY do come and are sent into this Realm of England, and other the Queen's Majesty's Dominions*, of purpose (as it hath appeared, as well by sundry of their own Examinations and CONFESSIONS as divers other manifest means and proofs) not only to withdraw Her Highness' subjects from their due obedience to Her Majesty, but also to STIR UP AND MOVE SEDITION, REBELLION and OPEN HOSTILITY within the same, Her Highness' Realms and Dominions, *to the great endangering of the safety of Her most Royal Person, and to the UTTER RUIN, Desolation, and Overthrow of the Whole Realm,** if the same be not the sooner, by some good

* The Church Historian, STRYPE, has left on record a copy of certain “Articles or Resolutions taken at Rome against Queen Elizabeth,” at an assembly of the Popish Clergy of Italy, in 1563, from which it appears, that the objects contemplated by the Papists immediately after the Reformation, were these, (*viz.*)—THAT ‘the English Liturgy should be aspersed by all ways and conspiracies imaginable :’—THAT ‘a Licence or Dispensation should be granted to any of the Romish Orders to preach, speak, or write against the new-established Church of England; to be done among Protestants in other parts, on purpose to make England odious to them :’—THAT ‘the persons so licensed and indulged were to be seemingly as some of them, and not to be either taxed, checked, or excommunicated for so doing :’—THAT ‘they were to change their names, lest they should be discovered, and keep a quaternal correspondence with the Cardinals, &c.’—THAT ‘a Pardon should be granted to any that would assault the Queen, or would be Cook, Brewer, Baker, Vintner, Physician, Grocer, Chirurgeon, or of any other calling whatsoever that would *make her away* :’—THAT ‘an absolute Remission of Sins should be granted to the Heirs of the Assassin's family ; with a perpetual Annuity to them for ever, and the right of membership in the Privy Council, whosoever afterwards should reign :’—THAT ‘the See of Rome should dispense with all parties of the Roman Faith to swear to all Heresies in England and elsewhere :’—AND that the circumstance of ‘having taken this Oath, with an intention to promote or advance the Roman Catholic Faith, was not to be considered as a crime against the soul of the party accused.’—(See *Strype's Annals*, Vol. 1, ch. xxxvi. ; also Tract No. 12, 2nd Series—*The Plots of the Jesuits.*)

'means, foreseen and prevented.—For reformation whereof, Be it ordained, established and enacted, &c.' (See *Codex Juris Ecclesiastici Anglicani*, by Edmund Gibson, D.D., Archdeacon of Surrey, Rector of Lambeth, &c., afterwards Bishop of London. Fol. edit. 1713, Vol. 1, pp. 621, 622.†)

1592—35th Elizabeth, ch. ii.—AN ACT passed, entitled "An Act for "restraining of Popish Recusants * to some certain Places of Abode," wherein the following recital is made :

'For the better discovering and avoiding of such Traiterous and most Dangerous CONSPIRACIES and attempts as are DAILY devised and practised against our Most Gracious Sovereign Lady the Queen's Majesty, and the happy Estate of this Common-weal, by sundry wicked and seditious persons, who, terming themselves *Catholics*, and being, indeed, *Spies and Intelligencers*, not only for Her Majesty's Foreign Enemies, but also for Rebellious and Traiterous Subjects born within Her Highness' Realms and Dominions, and, hiding their most detestable and devilish purposes under a false pretext of Religion and Conscience, do SECRETLY WANDER and SHIFT FROM PLACE to PLACE, within this Realm, to corrupt and seduce Her Majesty's subjects, and to STIR THEM TO SEDITION AND REBELLION,—Be it ordained and enacted, &c.' (*Ibid.* p. 669.)

AFTER GUNPOWDER-PLOT.

1605—3rd James I. ch. iv.—AN ACT passed, entitled "An Act for the "better discovering, &c., of Popish Recusants," containing the following recital :

'FORASMUCH as it is found, by DAILY Experience, that many His Majesty's subjects that adhere in their hearts to the Popish religion, by the infection drawn from thence, and by the wicked and devilish counsel of JESUITS, Seminaries and other like persons, dangerous to Church and State, are so far perverted in the point of their loyalties and due allegiance unto the King's Majesty and the Crown of England, as they are ready to entertain and execute any Treasonable Conspiracies and Practices, as evidently appears by that more than barbarous attempt to have blown up with Gunpowder the King, Queen, Prince, Lords and Commons in the House of Parliament assembled, tending to the utter subversion of the whole state, lately undertaken BY THE INSTIGATION OF JESUITS and Seminaries, and in advancement of their religion by their Scholars taught and instructed by them to that purpose,—which attempt, by the only goodness of Almighty God, was discovered and defeated.—AND WHEREAS divers persons, popishly affected, do nevertheless, the better to cover and hide their false hearts, and with the more safety to attend the opportunity to execute their mischievous designs, repair sometimes to Church, to escape the penalty of the laws in that behalf provided.—For the better discovery therefore of such persons and their evil actions, to the King's Majesty and the State of this his realm, to the end that, being known, their evil purposes may be the better prevented,—Be it enacted, &c.' (*Ibid.* p. 643.)

AFTER THE RESTORATION.

1678—30th Charles II. ch. 1.—AN ACT passed, entitled "An Act for "the more effectual preserving the King's Person and Government, by "disabling Papists from sitting in either House of Parliament," wherein is the following recital :

† In this work, under two heads (Tit. xxvi. xxvii.) upwards of forty Acts of Parliament are cited, which passed in the Reigns of Elizabeth, James I., Charles I. and II., William III. and Mary, and Queen Anne, for the purpose of protecting the British Crown and Constitution against the dangers of Popery.—The wisdom of our ancestors, in this matter, however, has been trampled under foot with contempt, in this age of spurious liberality, and many of the Acts referred to were repealed in 1845, as 'an incumbrance and discredit to the Statute-Book on which they stand.'—(Speech of Sir Robert Peel, in the House of Commons, Aug. 5, 1844.)—Who were our wise senators and who the foolish, a short time will perhaps discover.

* A *Recusant*, in general, signifies any person who *refuses* to worship God after the manner of the Established Church.—A *Popish Recusant* is a Papist who so refuses ; and a *Popish Recusant Convict* is a Papist legally convicted of such offence.

'FORASMUCH as divers good laws have been made for preventing the increase and danger of Popery in this kingdom, which have not had the desired effects, *by reason of the FREE ACCESS which Popish Recusants have had to HIS MAJESTY'S COURT, and by reason of the liberty, which, of late, some of the Recusants have had and taken to SIT and VOTE IN PARLIAMENT, WHEREFORE, and for the safety of His Majesty's Royal Person and Government,—BE it enacted, &c.*' (*Ibid.* p. 662.)

AFTER THE REVOLUTION OF 1688.

1688—1 William and Mary, ch. ix.—AN ACT passed, entitled "An Act for amoving Papists and reputed Papists from the cities of London and Westminster, and ten miles' distance from the same," containing the following recital :

'WHEREAS the great numbers of PAPISTS RESORTING TO THE CITIES OF LONDON and WESTMINSTER are, and, for a long time *have been found dangerous to the Peace and Safety of this Kingdom.—FOR the better preservation of the common safety, and avoiding their mischievous practices and designs,—BE it enacted, &c.*' (*Ib.* p. 675.)

1699—11th & 12th William III. ch. iv.—AN ACT passed, entitled "An Act for the further preventing the growth of Popery," containing the following recital :

'WHEREAS there has been, of late, a much greater RESORT into this kingdom than formerly, of POPIISH BISHOPS, PRIESTS, and JESUITS; *and they do very openly and in insolent manner affront the Laws, and daily endeavour to pervert his Majesty's natural-born Subjects, which has been occasioned by neglect of the due execution of the laws already in force.—FOR preventing the further growth of Popery, and of such treasonable and execrable Designs and Conspiracies against His Majesty's Person and Government and the Established Religion, as have lately, as well as frequently heretofore, been brought to light and happily defeated by the wonderful Providence of God,—BE it enacted, &c.*' (*Ibid.* p. 634.)

ROME UNCHANGEABLE.

THE FACTS recited in the foregoing Extracts call for serious consideration.—They stand recorded in Documents of National Authority—THE STATUTE-BOOKS OF ENGLAND; and if the Protestant Constitution of Great Britain is to be handed down *unimpaired* to succeeding generations, it must be by the exercise of the same *Holy Vigilance*, and the same INFLEXIBLE RESISTANCE to the impudent demands and the ever-varying intrigues of Popery, as were so nobly manifested by our Protestant forefathers.—THEY were fully persuaded, from long and sad experience, that Popery contains nothing which can safely be associated with the British Constitution, and so MUST WE. Every attempt to *parley* with this deadly foe has terminated and *must* terminate in DISAPPOINTMENT and SELF-DESTRUCTION;* for the Principles of Popery remain just what they were three centuries ago.—THE DECREES OF THE COUNCIL OF TRENT ARE STILL UNREVOKED!—The following Admonitions against Concessions to Popery, addressed to the House of Commons, in a sermon preached on the anniversary of Gunpowder-Plot in 1641, by *Cornelius Burgess, D.D.*, and

* "The Catholic Emancipation Act," which passed in 1829, introduced a complete Revolution in the Principles of the British Constitution.—It is now no longer what it once was, "A PROTESTANT CONSTITUTION!" and since that fatal Act, the progress of Popery in this country has been steady and uninterrupted, to the humbling of Protestantism and to its own aggrandizement.—Fifty years ago there were only 30 Popish Chapels in Great Britain—there are now upwards of 620!!—*Cathedrals* are rising—*Monasteries, Colleges, and Convents* are preparing—*Priests, Jesuits, and Emissaries* of all sorts are multiplying—and in 1838 the *Catholic Institute* was established (re-organized in 1845) for the conversion of Great Britain to Popery.—Compared with this solid and progressive *Papal Usurpation*, PROTESTANT DISSENT IS NOTHING!

‘published by order of the House,’ afford instruction suited to the present hour.—Having reminded the august assembly, THAT, ‘from all the Brood ‘that be Agents and Factors for Rome, whether Lay or Ecclesiastic, ‘Regular or Secular, nothing, *to the End of the World*, was to be expected ‘but Conspiracy and Cruelty, TREASON and REBELLION, *so often as Power ‘and Opportunity met!*’—THAT ‘they were not to listen to any of their ‘(the Papists) Syren-Songs for Abrogation or Mitigation of the Laws ‘made against them, or for trusting of them, as some would persuade!’—THAT ‘*they were no Changelings!*’—the preacher then charged the House with these ‘FOUR REMEMBRANCERS,’ under each of which he offered much salutary counsel:

‘*First.*—That Papists had never been quiet, but always hammering and contriving, or soliciting and driving on, desperate Plots and Conspiracies—to DESTROY ‘THEIR SOVEREIGN—to ABOLISH RELIGION—to SUBVERT THE LAWS, and TO EXPOSE ‘THE KINGDOMS TO A PREY OF ANY FOREIGN ENEMY THAT WOULD LEND THEM EITHER ‘AID OR COUNTEenance:’—observing, ‘If you would have Peace with Rome, *Rome ‘will have no Peace with you*; and to pluck up the Hedge of your Laws is to LAY ‘ALL WASTE; FOR THEY WILL NEVER BE QUIET TILL, EITHER BY YOUR CARE AND ‘WISDOM, YOU HAVE SECURED THEM FROM DOING MORE MISCHIEF, OR TILL ‘THEY HAVE BROUGHT US ALL UNDER THE LINE OF CONFUSION!’

‘*Second.*—That it was not our LAWS, but sundry PRINCIPLES of *their very Religion*, ‘that made them disloyal, and carried them still on upon Treasons and Rebellion; ‘and would do so although the *Laws made against them were all repealed!*’

‘*Third.*—That the Education and Profession of all Priests and Jesuits that come ‘over hither, did bind them to INFUSE Principles of Treason into their Proselytes, ‘and to STIR THEM UP upon all occasions to act it!’

‘*Fourth.*—That Priests and Jesuits did ever CORRUPT the judgments of their ‘followers and instruments of Assassination and Treason, with poisonous positions, ‘touching the nature of such facts; and BRIBE their consciences, with strong baits ‘of reward and glory, to all that would undertake the acting of Treasons and ‘Rebellions at their instigation, which was one of the strongest and most dangerous ‘incentives to any new villany that could be invented!’

AND, after shewing from history, that ‘it had ever been the Papists’ ‘manner to animate assassins to any desperate design of treason by ‘maintaining, that the Act, *being against Heretics*, was not only justifiable ‘but COMMENDATORY and GLORIOUS,” the Preacher remarks:

‘HENCE all Papists in the kingdom, who attribute any validity to the Pope’s ‘Bulls, may draw encouragement for ANY CONSPIRACY and REBELLION, in any time ‘to come, against any successor of Queen Elizabeth, that doth or shall renounce ‘the Pope and Popery (if the Conspirators find themselves strong enough or ‘subtle enough), BY STABBING, POISONING, BLOWING-UP, OR ANYTHING TO DETHRONE ‘THEIR SOVEREIGN, AND TO DESTROY ALL THAT TAKE PART WITH HIM, AND ENDEAVOUR ‘TO SUPPORT HIM!’ (See Tract No. VIII., First Series—*Rome Unchangeable!* Also No. IX., First Series—*Rome Treacherous and Cruel!*)

CONCLUSION.

THE frequent Secession of Tractarians to the Church of Rome fully demonstrates, that Tractarianism is but a SLIGHT MODIFICATION OF POPERY, embracing a System of Errors, ruinous to immortal *Souls* and dangerous to *Protestant Commonwealths*.—LET the Reformed Church of Britain then awake and put on her strength, and save herself from this ‘untoward ‘generation,’ lest the curse denounced against ‘the Mother of Harlots’ come on her.—FOR THE CURSE OF BABYLON WILL ASSUREDLY BECOME THE CURSE OF BRITAIN, UNLESS SHE DENOUNCE THIS JESUITICAL APOSTACY!!

